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Illinois Commerce Commission to Host Cybersecurity Policy Session

CHICAGO – The Illinois Commerce Commission is hosting a Cybersecurity policy session on Thursday, July 21 from 10:00am-3:00pm. The policy session will focus on the specific roles of government and industry stakeholders in protecting the nation's critical energy infrastructure.

The session's panels will feature government officials and industry experts who will discuss successes, challenges, strategies, best practices, industry frameworks and opportunities for improving and implementing effective cybersecurity measures.

"At a time when cyber threat actors are becoming increasingly sophisticated, the time is ripe for a strategic dialogue between cybersecurity leaders to encourage information sharing and to illuminate how all parties may work together to contribute to the fabric of the nation's cybersecurity policy as well as protect the services, data and information essential to the people of Illinois," said Commissioner Sherina Maye Edwards, who is leading the policy session.

Joining the ICC will be Robert Ivanauskas, Attorney-Advisor, Office of Energy Infrastructure Security, FERC; Kirk Lonbom, Chief Information Security Officer, State of Illinois; Tina Hauri, Chief Information Security Officer, City of Chicago; William Lucas, Director of Technology Security and Compliance, WE Energies; Nicholas Santillo, Vice President, Internal Audit and Chief Security Officer, American Water; Mary P. Heger, Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Ameren; Mark Brooks, Chief Information Security Officer, MISO; Jennifer Rathburn, Partner, Quarles & Brady; Bob Lockhart, Manager, Cybersecurity Programs, Utilities Telecom Council; Sharla Artz, Director of Government Affairs, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc., United States Energy Association; and Annabelle Lee, Principal Technical Executive, Cyber Security Power Delivery and Utilization, Electric Power Research Institute.

The session will take place at the ICC's Chicago office, located at 160 N. LaSalle Street on the 8th floor. In addition, there will be an audio stream of the meeting on the Commission's website (www.icc.illinois.gov).

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About the Illinois Commerce Commission

The Illinois Commerce Commission's mission is to pursue an appropriate balance between the interests of consumers and existing and emerging service providers to ensure the provision of adequate, efficient, reliable, safe and least-cost public utility services. The Commission pursues this mission through three bureaus: The Bureau of External Affairs, which provides educational information on utility issues for consumers, governmental entities and communities and through its Consumer Services Division, resolves customer/utility disputes and develops rules on utility service and consumer protection; the Public Utilities Bureau, which focuses on financial and operational analysis, policy development, public safety and enforcement activities related to electric, natural gas, water, sewer and telecommunications companies; and the Transportation Bureau, which includes trucking insurance and registration, railroad safety, relocation towing, safety towing and household goods moving company enforcement activities. The ICC's five commissioners are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Illinois State Senate for five-year terms.